AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A liquid pharmaceutical formulation consisting of from about 0.6 to 24 MIU/ml of interferon-beta, mannitol, an acetate buffer at a pH between 3.0 and 4.0 and, optionally, albumin.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Previously presented) A liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, in which interferon-beta is recombinant.

4. (Original) A liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, in which interferon-beta is in a quantity between 0.6 and 1 MIU/m1.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Original) A liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 4, in which the buffer solution has a concentration of 0.01 M.

7. (Original) A liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, which also comprises human albumin.

8. (Original) A liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, comprising 1 MIU/m1 of interferon-beta, 54.6 mg/ml of mannitol, 0.5 mg/ml of albumin in a solution of 0.01 M acetate buffer at pH 3.5.

9. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, comprising combining interferon-beta with mannitol, an acetate buffer at a pH between 3.0 and 4.0 and, optionally, albumin.

10. (Original) A container hermetically sealed in sterile conditions comprising the liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1 and appropriate for storage prior to use.

11. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 9 in which interferon-beta is recombinant and is in a quantity between 0.6 and 1 MIU/ml.

12. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 11 in which conditions comprising ~~the~~ interferon-beta ~~is~~ at 1 MIU/ml, ~~the~~ mannitol ~~is~~ at 54.6 mg/ml, and 0.5 mg/ml of albumin in a solution of 0.01 M acetate buffer at pH 3.5 ~~is~~ are employed.

13. (Currently amended) A container hermetically sealed in sterile conditions comprising the liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim ~~12~~ 8 and appropriate for storage prior to use.

14. (Currently amended) A container hermetically sealed in sterile conditions comprising the liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim [[4]] 1 and appropriate for storage prior to use.

15. (Previously added) A liquid pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 8, in which interferon-beta is recombinant.